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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,973	03/31/2004	Katsuhiro Kido	3022-0024	1807

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EXAMINER

LEUNG, JENNIFER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3709

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/812,973

Applicant(s)

KIDO, KATSUHIRO

Examiner

Jennifer Leung

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) *
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) *
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date See Continuation Sheet.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :6/18/2004; 11/30/2005; 12/30/2005; 5/25/2006.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because in Fig. 13, Step S52 "Receive BET reception ending notification information" should be -- Receive BET acceptance end notification information --. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Page 22, lines 16-19: "game operation means for operating the game operation means of the second game" should be -- game operation means for operating the game control means of the second game --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 18: "the game control means of the second game" should be -- the second game control means --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cannon (US 2002/0183105).

Re claim 1: Cannon discloses a gaming system (Para. 0002, lines 1-2) comprising: a first gaming machine for providing a first game (70, Fig. 4F; Para. 0020, lines 12-16), which includes a control panel to be operated by a first player (Page 18, claim 3); and a second gaming machine connected communicatively with the first gaming machine for providing a second game (Fig. 4F; Para. 0005, lines 6-9; Para. 0139, lines 1-7), which is different from the first game (Para. 0045, lines 14- 21) and in which another player in addition to the first player is capable of participating (Para. 0139, lines 1-7), wherein the second gaming machine comprises second game control means including: program storage means for storing a program to control the second game (112 & 118, Fig. 3; Para. 0047, lines 12-18); program execution means for executing the program (110, Fig. 3; Para. 0046; Para. 0047, lines 18-24); image data storage means for storing image data of the second game (115 & 116, Fig. 3; Para. 0047, lines 8-12); and image data transmission means for transmitting the image data of the second game to the first gaming machine (124, 120, & 122, Fig. 3; Paras. 0048, 0049, 0055), and wherein the first gaming machine comprises: first game control means for controlling the first game (76, 77, 78, 79, 81, & 82, Fig. 3; Para. 0050, lines 3-5); image data reception means for receiving the image data of the second game transmitted from the second gaming

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machine (124, Fig. 3; Para. 0069, lines 10-13); second display means for displaying an image based on the image data of the second game (102, Fig. 4F; Para. 0088, lines 19-27; Para. 0139, lines 1-7); and game operation means for operating the game control means of the second game (Para. 0045, lines 14- 21).

Re claim 2: Cannon further discloses the gaming system according to claim 1, wherein the first player operates the game operation means such that the first player bets for the second game (Para. 0011, lines 5-8; Para. 20, lines 12-19; Para. 0039, lines 1-5; Para. 0067; Para. 0069, lines 1-10).

Re claim 3: Cannon further discloses the gaming system according to claim 1, wherein the first gaming machine comprises payout means for paying out to the first player based on a result of the second game (Para. 0112, lines 9-13).

Re claim 4: Cannon further discloses the gaming system according to claim 1, wherein the first game is played only by the first player (Para. 0006, lines 4-6; Para. 0042).

Re claim 5: Cannon further discloses the gaming system according to claim 1, wherein the first gaming machine comprises first display means for variably displaying a plurality of symbols for the first game (Para. 0009, lines 4-8; Para. 0115, lines 3-9).

Re claim 6: Cannon further discloses the gaming system according to claim 1, wherein the first gaming machine comprises a video poker game (Para. 0019, lines 5-7; Para. 0045, lines 1-4).

Re claim 7: Cannon further discloses the gaming system according to claim 1, wherein the first and second gaming machines are connected through the Internet (Para. 0005, lines 6-9; Para. 0039, lines 19-25; Para. 0045, lines 14-18).

Re claim 8: Cannon further discloses the gaming system according to claim 1, wherein the second gaming machine transmits a starting signal to the first gaming machine such that the first player is invited to the second game (Para. 0065; Para. 0068, lines 1-3; Para. 0072; Para. 0083, lines 1-3).

Re claim 9: Cannon discloses a first gaming machine for providing a first game (70, Fig. 4F; Para. 0020, lines 12-16), which includes a control panel to be operated by a first player (Page 18, claim 3); wherein the first gaming machine is connected communicatively with a second gaming machine for providing a second game (Fig. 4F; Para. 0005, lines 6-9; Para. 0139, lines 1-7), which is different from the first game (Para. 0045, lines 14- 21) and in which another player in addition to the first player is capable of participating (Para. 0139, lines 1-7), and wherein the first gaming machine comprises: first game control means for controlling the first game (76, 77, 78, 79, 81, & 82, Fig. 3; Para. 0050, lines 3-5); image data reception means for receiving the image data of the

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second game transmitted from the second gaming machine (124, Fig. 3; Para. 0069, lines 10-13); second display means for displaying an image based on the image data of the second game (102, Fig. 4F; Para. 0088, lines 19-27; Para. 0139, lines 1-7); and game operation means for operating game contents of the second game (Para. 0045, lines 14- 21).

Re claim 10: Cannon further discloses the first gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the first player operates the game operation means such that the first player bets for the second game (Para. 0011, lines 5-8; Para. 20, lines 12-19; Para. 0039, lines 1-5; Para. 0067; Para. 0069, lines 1-10).

Re claim 11: Cannon further discloses the first gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the first gaming machine comprises payout means for paying out to the first player based on a result of the second game (Para. 0112, lines 9-13).

Re claim 12: Cannon further discloses the first gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the first game is played only by the first player (Para. 0006, lines 4-6; Para. 0042).

Re claim 13: Cannon further discloses the first gaming machine according to claim 9, further comprising first display means for variably displaying a plurality of symbols for the first game (Para. 0009, lines 4-8; Para. 0115, lines 3-9).

Re claim 14: Cannon further discloses the first gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the first gaming machine comprises a video poker game (Para. 0019, lines 5-7; Para. 0045, lines 1-4).

Re claim 15: Cannon further discloses the first gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the first gaming machine is connected with the second gaming machine through the Internet (Para. 0005, lines 6-9; Para. 0039, lines 19-25; Para. 0045, lines 14-18).

Re claim 16: Cannon further discloses the first gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the first gaming machine receives a starting signal from the second gaming machine such that the first player is invited to the second game (Para. 0065; Para. 0068, lines 1-3; Para. 0072; Para. 0083, lines 1-3).

Conclusion

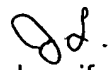
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Johnson discloses a multi-game system. DeWeese discloses an interactive wagering systems and methods with multiple television feeds. Cannon discloses a method and apparatus for a player-controllable bonus game. Adams discloses a method of playing game and gaming device with interactive driving game

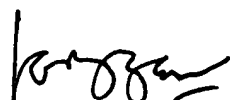
display. Luciano, Jr. discloses a hybrid gaming apparatus and method. Hedrick discloses a gaming machine having secondary display for providing video content.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Leung whose telephone number is 571-270-1342. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon -Thur, every other Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jong-Suk (James) Lee can be reached on 571-272-7044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jennifer Leung
November 16, 2006


KIM NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER